25X1

CLASSIFICATION	SECRET	
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT
TOPIC	Cottbus Airfield	618890
EVALUATION		
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	19 March 1954
REFERENCES		
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The following air activity was observed at Cottbus airfield between 21 January and 13 February 1954:
   21 January. Formation flying was practiced by four swept-back jet aircraft over Cottbus. There was a closed ceiling.
   22 January. Yak-18s practiced formation flying over the field. The ceiling was closed. The sound of jet aircraft flying over the clouds was repeatedly heard throughout the day.
   8 February. There was little air activity by Yak-18s. Visibility was good.
   9 February. There was air activity by Yak-11s and jet aircraft.
   10 February. Flying was practiced by Yak-18s, including one with [ ] 25X1 red propeller hub. The ceiling was closed.
   13 February. There was intensive formation flying by Yak-11s. The aircraft which flew in elements of twos were apparently manned by beginners. Aerobatics were simultaneously made.[1]

2. [ ] the VPL comprised three air divisions.[2]   25X1

3. During the first half of February, the Funker Kaserne in Cottbus was still occupied by VPL personnel. [ ] some time ago, VPL officers had returned from the USSR 25X1 and were stationed at Cottbus airfield.[3] At the end of January, a VPL trainer aircraft crashed in or near Niesky.

1. [ ] Comment. The information indicates that the same air activity is being   25X1 conducted as previously by Yak-18s and Yak-11s at Cottbus airfield.
2. [ ] Comment. The information confirms that the previous three VPL regiments were   25X1 re-organized into three divisions
3. [ ] Comment. [ ] about 70 pilots of the VPL personnel who returned from the USSR were transferred to Cottbus.

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